



# FIELD CROPS

## CROP PRODUCTION



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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### Florida

**Weather:** September's weather consisted of scattered and varied amounts of rainfall. Throughout the month, topsoil moisture ratings of adequate or surplus were at least 75 percent. The Panhandle missed much of the rainfall and drought conditions continued with early September high temperatures to stress growing crops. Mid-month temperatures were more moderate. Dry weather delayed peanut harvesting, but late-month showers softened soils for easier digging. The late-month dry weather allowed for the sugarcane harvest to get underway, cotton defoliation, and very limited cotton picking.

**Cotton:** Based on conditions existing on October 1, yield is forecast at 712 pounds per acre, down 12 pounds from last month's forecast, and down 54 pounds from last year's 766. Growers expect to harvest 120,000 acres, up from last year's 89,000 acres. Production is expected to total 178,000 480-pound bales, up 36,000 bales from last year. In late September, early planted cotton was defoliating and the harvest was underway.

**Peanuts:** As of October 1, yield is expected to average 3,400 pounds per acre, down 3 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 157,000 acres, up 22,000 acres from last year. Production is forecast at 533.8 million pounds, up almost 13 percent from last year. Peanut harvesting began in mid-September. Expected yields increased from the previous month's estimate. Peanut farmers in areas receiving little rain had difficulty digging the crop. Some also reported white mold on peanuts. During the week ending October 2, peanut digging was aided by rain which loosened the soil. Harvesting was reported as 41 percent complete, up approximately 23 percent from the previous week. Peanut crop conditions were reported as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

**Pecans:** Production of the bearing crop is anticipated at 1.5 million pounds, unchanged from the 2010 production. Eighty percent of the crop or 1.2 million pounds will come from improved varieties.

**Sugarcane:** All acreage for harvest is set at 397,000 acres, unchanged from the September estimate, but up 5,000 acres from the previous season's acreage. Yield is expected to average 35.0 net tons per acre, unchanged from the September estimate, but up 1.9 ton from last year. Production calculated to 13.9 million net tons, up 0.9 million tons from a year ago. During the week ending October 2, sugarcane harvesting was underway.

Total harvested acreage for cotton, peanuts, and sugarcane is 674,000 acres, an increase of 9 percent from the previous year.

### United States

**Cotton:** Production is forecast at 16.6 million 480-pound bales, up slightly from last month but down 8 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 809 pounds per harvested acre, down 3 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 15.9 million 480-pound bales, down 10 percent from 2010. American Pima production, forecast at 737,200 bales, was carried forward from last month. Upland cotton harvested area is expected to total 9.56 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 9 percent from 2010. If realized, the abandonment rate will be the highest on record. American Pima harvested area, at 287,500 acres, was carried forward from last month. Drought conditions in many of the cotton growing areas have negatively impacted this year's crop. Texas is experiencing one of the most severe droughts in recorded history. As of October 2, forty-two percent of the United States cotton acreage was rated in very poor to poor condition compared with 14 percent at this time last year. Eighty-four percent of the crop had bolls opening by October 2, two points behind last year but 9 points ahead of the 5-year average. Sixteen percent of the United States cotton crop had been harvested by October 2, seven points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. In south Texas, harvest and ginning neared completion by the end of the month. Heavy rain delayed fieldwork in portions of the Southeast, while defoliation and harvest were underway in the Delta region. Objective yield data in Texas forecasted boll weight to be the lowest since 2001.

**Peanuts:** Production is forecast at 3.63 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the September forecast but down 13 percent from last year's revised production of 4.16 billion pounds. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.11 million acres, unchanged from September but 11 percent lower than 2010. Yields are expected to average 3,256 pounds per acre, up 152 pounds from September but down 56 pounds from last year. Harvest was underway in all States except Oklahoma by the end of September. As of October 2, nineteen percent of the United States acreage was harvested, 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average but 4 points behind last year. Condition of the United States crop was relatively unchanged from last month, with 39 percent rated good to excellent. In Oklahoma, where extreme drought conditions continued to plague the State, crop condition ratings decreased considerably from last month. As of October 2, twenty-five percent of the crop was rated in very poor to poor condition, compared with 14 percent on September 4.

**Pecans:** Production is forecast at 252 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), 14 percent below 2010. Improved varieties are expected to produce 216 million pounds or 86 percent of the total, while native and seedling varieties at 36.0 million pounds, make up the remaining 14 percent of production. In Georgia, despite the drought conditions experienced this summer, the crop is expected to be good. In New Mexico, reduced production is expected due to drought conditions. In Texas, even though this is an “on” year for pecan production, producers reported low expectations for this year’s crop due to severe drought conditions across much of the pecan producing region.

**Sugarcane:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 28.6 million tons, unchanged from the September forecast but up 5 percent from 2010. Producers intend to harvest 883,000 acres for sugar and seed in 2011 with an expected yield of 32.4 tons per acre, both unchanged from the September forecast. Recent rains in Louisiana promoted growth after a dry summer. Hawaii and Texas continued to experience drought conditions.

**Crop Production: Acreage for Harvest and Forecasts of Yield and Production for Florida and United States as of October 1, 2011 with Comparisons**

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun.]

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2010	For harvest 2011	2010	Indicated 2011		2010	Indicated 2011
	(thousands)	(thousands)				(thousands)	(thousands)
<b>FLORIDA</b>							
Cotton <sup>1</sup> .....	89.0	120.0	766.0	712.0	( <sup>1</sup> )	142.0	178.0
Peanuts .....	135.0	157.0	3,500.0	3,400.0	pounds	472,500.0	533,800.0
Pecans, All.....					pounds	1,500.0	1,500.0
Improved Varieties.....					pounds	1,200.0	1,200.0
Native and Seedling .....					pounds	300.0	300.0
Potatoes:							
Spring .....	31.8	33.7	250.0	256.0	cwt	7,950.0	8,618.0
Sugarcane .....	392.0	397.0	33.1	35.0	ton	12,972.0	13,895.0
<b>UNITED STATES</b>							
Corn for Grain .....	81,446.0	83,936.0	152.8	148.1	bushels	12,446,865.0	12,432,910.0
Cotton, All <sup>1</sup> .....	10,698.7	9,849.5	812.0	809.0	( <sup>1</sup> )	18,104.1	16,608.2
Hay, Alfalfa .....	19,956.0	19,329.0	3.40	3.35	ton	67,903.0	64,714.0
Hay, All Other .....	39,906.0	38,276.0	1.95	1.75	ton	77,653.0	66,980.0
Peanuts for Nuts.....	1,255.0	1,114.0	3,312.0	3,256.0	pounds	4,156,840.0	3,627,700.0
Pecans, All.....					pounds	293,740.0	251,700.0
Improved Varieties.....					pounds	232,560.0	215,650.0
Native and Seedling .....					pounds	61,180.0	36,050.0
Potatoes:							
Spring .....	85.8	90.5	289.0	283.0	cwt	24,797.0	25,640.0
Summer.....	40.4	44.2	321.0	303.0	cwt	12,971.0	13,386.0
Fall.....	881.8	936.1	416.0		cwt	366,505.0	
Rice .....	3,615.0	2,624.0	6,725.0	7,123.0	( <sup>2</sup> )	243,104.0	186,903.0
Sorghum for Grain .....	4,808.0	4,432.0	71.8	55.0	bushels	345,395.0	243,800.0
Soybeans for Beans.....	76,610.0	73,676.0	43.5	41.5	bushels	3,329,181.0	3,059,987.0
Sugarbeets .....	1,155.7	1,207.6	27.6	24.2	ton	31,901.0	29,180.0
Sugarcane for							
Sugar and Seed.....	877.5	883.0	31.2	32.4	ton	27,360.0	28,622.0
Sweet Potatoes.....	116.9	128.2	204.0		cwt	23,845.0	
Tobacco, All .....	337.5	331.9	2,130.0	1,922.0	pounds	718,883.0	637,903.0
Wheat, All: .....	47,619.0	45,715.0	46.3	43.9	bushels	2,206,916.0	2,008,039.0
Winter.....	31,741.0	32,314.0	46.8	46.2	bushels	1,484,861.0	1,493,677.0
Durum .....	2,519.0	1,322.0	42.1	39.3	bushels	106,080.0	51,889.0
Other Spring.....	13,359.0	12,079.0	46.1	38.3	bushels	615,975.0	462,473.0

<sup>1</sup> Production ginned and to be ginned. Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.

<sup>2</sup> Yield in pounds, production in cwt. Includes sweet rice production.